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stratigraphical and palaeobiogeographical implications**

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Freshwater hybodont sharks from the Late Jurassic – Early Cretaceous of Northeastern Thailand: stratigraphical and palaeobiogeographical implications

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The Jurassic and Cretaceous of Thailand have yielded rather diversified faunas of freshwater hybodont sharks, which now encompass at least 19 taxa, distributed over three formations. The oldest formation, the Phu Kradung Formation (latest Jurassic–earliest Cretaceous) shows a fauna made of relatively unspecialized hybodont sharks with both European (*Acrodus*, *Lonchidion*) and Chinese (*Jiiodontus*) affinities. This represents the youngest occurrence of the genus *Acrodus*, and together with the presence of *Jiiodontus* and of dermal denticles of an unusual morphotype restricted to the Jurassic of Southern Thailand; it suggests a Late Jurassic age for most of the Phu Kradung. On the contrary, the two more recent ones, the Sao Khua (Barremian) and Khok Kruat (Aptian/Albian) formations show a higher level of endemism, as well as the appearance of highly specialized genera, like *Mukdahanodus* and *Thaiodus*, which are among the rare hybodont sharks to have developed a cutting dentition.

Another very successful, highly specialized durophagous hybodont, *Heteroptychodus*, is first recorded in the Phu Kradung Formation, suggesting a basal Cretaceous age for the uppermost part of this Formation, before it expands its distribution towards the North and the West in Japan, Kyrgyzstan, South China and Mongolia. This might suggest that Southeast Asia was a centre of origination for a diversified freshwater hybodont shark fauna.

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